

RHODE ISLAND

LEAP District Support Program

2 November 2021



Overview of the LEAP District Support Program

 Provide select districts with targeted supports focused on the implementation of LEAP priority initiatives

Build a durable infrastructure for district improvement

 Sustainably and strategically invest resources to meet the needs of school communities which have been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic

Align work across RIDE to strategically support selected districts

How Districts Were Selected

RIDE identified 9 eligible districts based on a composite index of metrics in four categories

COVID-19 Health Metrics

- Case rates
- Hospitalization rates
- Mortality rates
- Vaccination rates

Academic Performance

 RICAS data from pre- and postpandemic ('18-'19 and '20-'21) in math and ELA District Eligibility Criteria

Percentages of students from historically underserved student groups:

- Students eligible for free and reduced price lunch
- Students of color
- Multilingual learners
- Differently-abled students

School Climate & Student Well-being

- Attendance
- Chronic absenteeism
- SurveyWorks climate data



What districts were identified as eligible?

Using the criteria on the previous slide, the following districts were determined to be eligible for inclusion based on obtaining the lowest average composite scores.

- Central Falls
- East Providence
- 3. Johnston
- 4. Newport
- 5. North Providence
- Pawtucket
- 7. Providence
- 8. West Warwick
- 9. Woonsocket



What are the benefits of participation for districts?

 Up to \$1.4 - \$4 million in matching funds from RIDE to bolster the investment of federal resources

- Participation in a series of workshops focused on continuous improvement (with accompanying tools and resources) to build strategic planning capacity and a Superintendent Institute, facilitated by Proving Ground
- A designated LEAP District Support Fellow to support the work

Ongoing technical assistance, collaboration, and thought partnership from LEAP
District Support Fellows, Proving Ground, WestEd, and targeted technical assistance
partners



What are the commitments throughout the program?

- Investing ARP/ESSER III funds in initiatives aligned to the previously outlined LEAP Priority Initiative Areas
- District participation in all phases of 2-year program, including:
 - The introductory Superintendent Institute sessions
 - A series of 9 Proving Ground workshops and related communities of practice to support planning and implementation

 Completion of interim work between sessions, with support from LEAP District Support Fellow and other support partners



What type of work will districts be asked to invest in?

RIDE and WestEd will meet with individual districts in November to align district priorities with LEAP Priority Initiatives Areas*, based on state and local data related to needs and priorities.















EQUITY

 Improve outcomes for persistently underserved student groups (MLLs, DAS, students of color, students from lowincome families)

EXPANDED LEARNING

 Provide expanded learning time opportunities

INSTRUCTION

 Invest in high quality instructional materials and high leverage instructional strategies

STUDENT WELL-BEING

 Provide comprehensive SEL and student mental health supports

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

 Re-engage students and school communities in schooling.

TALENT

 Recruit, support, & retain world class educator talent

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

 Implement comprehensive school improvement efforts

LEAP Priority Initiatives





^{*}Investments may also be made towards overall district strategic planning efforts.

LEAP District Support Program: Overview of Two-Year Timeline

Phase I. Commit & Prepare



- RIDE disseminates district eligibility letters and announces program to the public
- RIDE and WestEd cofacilitate virtual information sessions with eligible districts, and offer individual consultation as requested



- Districts learn about program, clarify participation expectations, and communicate about the opportunity with their communities
- Districts commit to participating via MOU with RIDE, and prepare teams for participation



- Proving Ground facilitates Superintendent Institute
- Proving Ground launches Session 1 for districts on setting up continuous improvement systems

Sept-Nov '21

Nov '21-Jun '22

Phase II. Analyze & Plan



- Districts engage with RIDE and WestEd to identify LEAP Core Investment Areas, and then draft their ESSER applications
- Districts identify solutions, engage in resource planning, and prepare for implementation for each LEAP Core Investment Area



- RIDE prepares data to support identification of LEAP Core Investment Areas aligned to district priorities
- LEAP Fellows and RIDE staff support ESSER application development, solution identification and resource planning, with support from WestEd



 Proving Ground facilitates Session 2 on identifying focus areas, Session 3 on root causes, Session 4 on identifying solutions, and Session 5 on solution design

Phase III. Implement & Monitor



• Districts begin to pilot their strategies and engage in short cycles of improvement to understand the impact of implementation



 LEAP Fellows and RIDE staff support implementation & progress monitoring, with support from WestEd



- Proving Ground facilitates Session 6-7 on implementation and monitoring (hosted in 2022)
- Proving Ground facilitates Sessions 8-9 on data-driven decisionmaking and leading continuous improvement (hosted in 2023)

Jul '22-Jun '23

Jun '23-Aug '23

Phase IV. Evaluate & Adjust



- Districts evaluate impact of implementation and refine solutions
- Districts plan ahead for sustainable implementation of solutions



- LEAP Fellows and RIDE staff support full implementation, solution refinement, and evaluation planning
- RIDE builds state-level capacity for future improvement efforts

Moving Forward: Next Steps

During the next month, districts and district teams will:	During the next month, RIDE and its partners will:
 Communicate to their broader community Assemble a district team Set up systems for work Consult with RIDE (as needed) Sign an MOU Participate in a Superintendent Institute and 1:1 District Meeting to identify LEAP Priority Initiatives 	 Schedule initial meetings and workshop sessions Issue a press release to announce program Meet with the district team to discuss involvement Facilitate the Superintendent Institute along with Proving Ground Onboard LEAP District Support Fellows

